

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A method for installing a utility line in a borehole comprising:
drilling a pilot borehole; and
automatically backreaming the pilot borehole while installing a utility line.
2. The method of claim 18 further comprising attaching the utility line to a backreamer.
3. The method of claim 19 further comprising recording the actual location of the utility line installed underground as the utility line is automatically pulled through the borehole.

4. A method for backreaming a horizontal borehole, the method comprising:
automatically pulling a drill string through the horizontal borehole;
automatically reducing a length of the drill string when the drill string must be
shortened;
5 automatically reducing a rate of pullback if the rotation pressure on the drill string
is greater than a predetermined limit; and
automatically reducing a rate of pullback if the product tension is greater than a
predetermined limit.